

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended)

A medium for cultivating and producing mites ~~group consisting of which is~~ free from human or animal substances and comprising comprises effective amounts[,] of a plurality of amino acids in particulate form with a particle size of less than 250 µm, or a plurality of amino acids in lyophilised form.

Claim 2 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, which comprises amino acids obtained by grinding amino acids.

Claim 3 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 2, which comprises lyophilized amino acids and/or amino acids obtained commercially.

Claim 4 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, which comprises lyophilized amino acids and amino acids obtained commercially.

Claim 5 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, wherein it contains salts.

Claim 6 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, wherein the mixture of amino acids contains at least 50% of amino acids which naturally make up proteins ~~or the equivalents thereof.~~

Claim 7 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, wherein the mixture of amino acids reproduces the spectrum of amino acids that make up keratin or the stratum corneum.

Claim 8 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, wherein the mixture of amino acids reproduces the spectrum of amino acids present in shrimp eggs or in soya.

Claim 9 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 7, wherein the respective proportions of the amino acids of said mixture are similar to the quantitative proportions of the amino acids and salts in keratin or the stratum corneum ~~or shrimp eggs or soya.~~

Claim 10 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 8, wherein the respective proportions of the amino acids of said mixture are similar to the quantitative proportions of the amino acids and salts found in a substance selected from the group consisting of ~~keratin, the stratum corneum, or~~ shrimp eggs and soya.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, which also contains wheat germs and/or yeast, especially baker's yeast, and/or cyanocobalamine and/or d-biotin.

Claim 13 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, which contains soya.

Claim 14 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 1, which contains at least 50% of the following amino acids:

- L-alanine
- L-arginine
- L-aspartic acid
- L-cysteine/cystine
- L-glutamic acid
- glycine
- L-histidine
- L-isoleucine
- L-leucine
- L-Lysine

- L-methionine
- L-phenylalanine
- L-proline
- L-serine
- L-threonine
- L-tryptophane
- L-tryrosine and
- L-valine.

Claim 15 (previously presented)

The medium of claim 14, which contains the amino acids in the following proportions, adding up to a total of 93.711 g:

| | |
|---|--------|
| - L-alanine | 3.8 g |
| - L-arginine | 4.2 g |
| - L-aspartic acid | 5.2 g |
| - L-cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate expressed as L-cysteine/L-cystine | 1.7 g |
| - L-glutamic acid | 11.5 g |
| - glycine | 2.7 g |
| - L-histidine | 3.1 g |
| - L-isoleucine | 5.0 g |
| - L-leucine | 6.7 g |

| | |
|---|------------|
| - L-lysine hydrochloride, expressed as L-lysine | 5.0 g |
| - L-methionine | 2.4 g |
| - L-phenylalanine | 7.0 g |
| - L-proline | 10.3 g |
| - L-serine | 9.6 g |
| - L-threonine | 3.8 g |
| - L-tryptophane | 1.3 g |
| - L-tyrosine | 0.6 g |
| - L-valine | 5.5 g |
| - calcium chloride dehydrate | 0.44g |
| - magnesium sulphate heptahydrate | 0.493g |
| - sodium hydroxide | 0.6 g |
| - potassium hydroxide | 0.70 g and |
| - potassium chloride | 0.078 g. |

Claims 16 to 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously presented)

A medium of claim 1 wherein said mites belong to at least one of the following species: *Dermatophagoids pteronyssinus*, *Dermatophagoides farinae*, *Blomia kulagini* or *tropicalis*, *Pyroglyphus africanus*, and *Euroglyphus maynei*.